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From Kimberly R. Bailey
Secretary to Roberto J. Devoto

Re 01481-00/US - Unemployment Insurance Management
Serial No: 10/733,251
Our Ref.: 12587-0040001

Number of pages
including this page 15

Message Examiner Donlon,

Per our discussion over the phone today, attached is the proposed supplemental amendment that amends the rejected claims to incorporate the allowed subject matter. Please call me and let me know if you approve of the changes. Once I receive your approval, I will reach out to the client to get their approval and then I will authorize you to enter the amendment via an Examiner's amendment.

Thanks!
-Rob Devoto

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NOTE: This facsimile is intended for the addressee only and may contain privileged or confidential information. If you have received this facsimile in error, please immediately call us collect at (202) 783-5070 to arrange for its return. Thank you.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	: Fischer et al.	Art Unit	: 3695
Serial No.	: 10/733,251	Examiner	: Ryan D. Donlon
Filed	: December 12, 2003	Conf. No.	: 8670
Title	: UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE MANAGEMENT		

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO ACTION OF APRIL 15, 2010

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-79. (Canceled)

80. (Currently Amended) A system for handling unemployment insurance comprising:
a database containing unemployment insurance benefit data and unemployment insurance tax data, wherein the unemployment insurance benefit data comprises a benefit status of a first particular claimant and the unemployment insurance tax data comprises an unemployment insurance tax payment status of a first particular[[an]] employer associated with the first particular claimant and an unemployment insurance tax payment status of a second particular employer; and

a computer system including at least one computer processor configured to:
receive login information from a first user, the login information including a user identifier for the first user;

authenticate the first user based on the login information received from the first user;

determine that the first user is a registered employer based on the login information for the first user and identify the first user as the first particular employer;

as a consequence of determining that the first user is a registered employer;

prompt the first user to provide information regarding employees of the first particular employer;

_____ receive information from the first user/employer regarding employees of the first particular employer in response to the prompting.[:]]

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_____ calculate, based on the information received from the first user, an unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer to a federal or state government unemployment insurance agency based on the received information from the employer,

_____ communicate to the first user/employer an invoice requesting payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer,

_____ receive an indication that the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer has been paid,

_____ access the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer stored in the database,

_____ update the accessed unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer based on the information received from the first user/employer and to reflect payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer, and

_____ store the updated unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer in the database: [[.]]

receive login information from a second user, the login information including a user identifier for the second user;

authenticate the second user based on the login information received from the second user;

determine whether the second user is a claimant or a registered employer based on the login information for the second user;

if the second user is determined to be a claimant:

identify the second user as the first particular claimant,

prompt the second user to submit a request for an unemployment insurance benefit,

_____ receive [[a]]the request for [[an]]the unemployment insurance benefit by the claimant in response to the prompting, and

_____ evaluate the request for the unemployment insurance benefit by the claimant based on the benefit status of the first particular claimant and the updated unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer; and

if the second user is determined to be a registered employer:

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identify the second user as the second particular employer,
prompt the second user to provide information regarding employees of the
second particular employer,
receive information from the second user regarding employees of the
second particular employer in response to the prompting,
calculate, based on the information received from the second user, an
unemployment insurance tax due by the second particular employer to the federal or state
government unemployment insurance agency, and
communicate to the second user an invoice requesting payment of the
unemployment insurance tax due by the second particular employer.

81-89. (Canceled)

90. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 80 wherein the database further comprises a data manager configured to process the unemployment insurance benefit data and the unemployment insurance tax data.

91. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 80 further comprising an access channel configured to allow [[a]]the first user access to the database and to the computer system.

92. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 91 wherein the access channel comprises a telephone contact center configured to receive telephone calls from [[a]]the first user.

93. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 91 wherein the access channel comprises a web self-service center configured to communicate with [[a]]the first user over a computer network.

94. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 91 wherein the access channel comprises an optical character recognition module configured to scan a paper document received

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from ~~[[a]]~~the first user and convert information on the paper document to computer readable data.

95. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 80 further comprising a desktop that is configured to allow a worker to process the unemployment insurance benefit data and the unemployment insurance tax data.

96. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 95 wherein the desktop enables the worker to process the request for the unemployment insurance benefit received from the second user~~by the claimant~~.

97. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 95 wherein the desktop enables the worker to process the payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer.

98. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 95 wherein the desktop comprises one or more pop-up screens that provide information to the worker.

99. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 95 wherein the desktop comprises one or more predetermined dialog scripts for use by the worker.

100. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 80 further comprising a web page interface configured to receive a web-based communication from ~~[[a]]~~the first user.

101. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 100 wherein the web page interface is configured to send a web-based communication to ~~[[a]]~~the first user.

102. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 100 wherein the web page interface comprises:

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one or more web pages configured to enable the second user[[claimant]] to submit the request for the unemployment insurance benefit; and

one or more web pages configured to enable the first user~~employer~~ to process payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer.

103. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 102 wherein the one or more web pages configured to enable the first user~~employer~~ to process payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer comprises:

at least one web page displaying the invoice that requests payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer, and

at least one web page configured to receive payment information from the first user~~employer~~ for paying the invoice that requests payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer.

104. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 103, wherein the payment information includes credit card information for paying the invoice that requests payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer.

105. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 80 further comprising a reporting layer that is configured to generate a report based on the unemployment insurance benefit data and the unemployment insurance tax data.

106. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 105 wherein the report comprises at least one of an employer balance due report, an employer monthly benefits charge statement, an employer determination of benefits report, a claimant claim history report, a claimant job referral report, a performance metrics report, a notice, an identification of claimant discrepancy report, and an identification of agency discrepancy report.

107. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 80 further comprising an external system interface configured to communicate with an external agency.

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108. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 107 wherein the external agency includes at least one of the state unemployment insurance agency and the federal unemployment insurance agency.

109. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 80 wherein the computer system is further configured to:

~~receive the request for the unemployment insurance benefit;~~

send a notification to the first particular employer associated with the first particular claimant indicating that the first particular claimant is seeking the unemployment insurance benefit; and

receive a response from the first particular employer to the notification.

110. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 109 wherein the computer system is further configured to update the database based on the response from the first particular employer.

111. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 80 wherein the computer system is further configured to issue the unemployment insurance benefit to the first particular claimant if the first particular claimant is eligible for the unemployment insurance benefit.

112. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 111 wherein the computer system is further configured to receive an update of the benefit status of the first particular claimant.

113. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 111 wherein the computer system is further configured to evaluate whether to terminate the unemployment insurance benefit based on the updated benefit status of the first particular claimant.

114. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 80 wherein the computer system being configured to evaluate the request comprises the computer system being configured to:

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access the updated unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer stored in the database,

determine, based on the accessed updated unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer, whether the first particular employer associated with the first particular claimant is an employer currently employing the first particular claimant, and

if the first particular employer associated with the first particular claimant is determined to be currently employing the first particular claimant, deny the request as fraudulent.

115. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 80 wherein the computer system being configured to receive information from the first user employer regarding employees of the first particular employer includes the computer system being configured to receive information about new employees of the first particular employer.

116. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 80 wherein the computer system being configured to receive information from the first user employer regarding employees of the first particular employer includes the computer system being configured to receive wage information paid by the first particular employer to the employees.

117-146. (Canceled)

147. (Currently Amended) A system for handling unemployment insurance comprising: unemployment insurance benefit data comprising a benefit status of a first particular claimant;

unemployment insurance tax data comprising an unemployment insurance tax payment status of a first particular employer associated with the first particular claimant and an unemployment insurance tax payment status of a second particular employer; and

a desktop that is configured to:

receive login information from a first user, the login information including a user identifier for the first user;

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authenticate the first user based on the login information received from the first user;

determine that the first user is a registered employer based on the login information for the first user and identifying the first user as the particular employer;

as a consequence of determining that the first user is a registered employer;

prompt the first user to provide information regarding employees of the first particular employer.

_____ receive information from the first user ~~employer~~ regarding employees of the first particular employer in response to the prompting.([:])

_____ calculate, using at least one computer processor and based on the information received from the first user, an unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer to a federal or state government unemployment insurance agency ~~based on the received information from the employer,~~

_____ communicate to the first user ~~employer~~ an invoice requesting payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer,

_____ receive an indication that the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer has been paid,

_____ access the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer, and

_____ update the accessed unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer based on the information received from the first user ~~employer~~ and to reflect payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer.([:])

receive login information from a second user, the login information including a user identifier for the second user;

authenticate the second user based on the login information received from the second user;

determine whether the second user is a claimant or a registered employer based on the login information for the second user;

if the second user is determined to be a claimant;

identify the second user as the first particular claimant.

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prompt the second user to submit a request for an unemployment insurance benefit,

_____ receive [[a]]the request for [[an]]the unemployment insurance benefit in response to the prompting by the claimant, and

_____ evaluate the request for the unemployment insurance benefit by the claimant based on the benefit status of the first particular claimant and the updated unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer; and

if the second user is determined to be a registered employer;

identify the second user as the second particular employer,

prompt the second user to provide information regarding employees of the second particular employer,

receive information from the second user regarding employees of the second particular employer in response to the prompting,

calculate, based on the information received from the second user, an unemployment insurance tax due by the second particular employer to the federal or state government unemployment insurance agency, and

communicate to the second user an invoice requesting payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the second particular employer.

148. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 147, wherein the desktop comprises a web-based interface configured to provide:

one or more web pages that receive the information from the first user ~~employer~~ regarding employees of the first particular employer

one or more web pages that display the invoice requesting payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer;

one or more web pages that receive payment information for payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer; and

one or more web pages with which the second user ~~claimant~~ can interact to electronically submit the request for the unemployment insurance benefit.

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149. (Currently Amended) A method for handling unemployment insurance, comprising:
providing a database of an unemployment insurance management system, the database containing unemployment insurance benefit data and unemployment insurance tax data, wherein the unemployment insurance benefit data comprises a benefit status of a first particular claimant and the unemployment insurance tax data comprises an unemployment insurance tax payment status of a first particular employer associated with the first particular claimant and an unemployment insurance tax payment status of a second particular employer;
receiving login information to the unemployment insurance management system from a first user, the login information including a user identifier for the first user;
authenticating the first user based on the login information received from the first user;
determining that the first user is a registered employer based on the login information for the first user and identifying the first user as the first particular employer;
as a consequence of determining that the first user is a registered employer,[[,]]
prompting the first user to provide information regarding employees of the first particular employer,
receiving information from the first user regarding employees of the first particular employer in response to the prompting,[[,]]
electronically calculating, by at least one computer processor and based on the information received from the first user, an unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer to a federal or state government unemployment insurance agency,
communicating to the first user an invoice requesting payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer,
receiving an indication that the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer has been paid,
electronically accessing, by the at least one computer processor, the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer stored in the database,[[,]]
updating the accessed unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer based on the information received from the first user and to reflect payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer, and

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electronically storing the updated unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer in the database;

receiving login information to the unemployment insurance management system from a second user, the login information including a user identifier for the second user;

authenticating the second user based on the login information received from the second user;

determining whether the second user is a claimant or a registered employer based on the login information for the second user;

if the second user is determined to be a claimant:

identifying the second user as the first particular claimant,

prompting the second user to submit a request for an unemployment insurance benefit,[[.]]

receiving the request for the unemployment insurance benefit from the second user in response to the prompting, and

evaluating the request for the unemployment insurance benefit received from the second user based on the benefit status of the first particular claimant and the updated unemployment insurance tax payment status of the first particular employer; and

if the second user is determined to be a registered employer:

identifying the second user as the second particular employer,

prompting the second user to provide information regarding employees of the second particular employer,

receiving information from the second user regarding employees of the second particular employer in response to the prompting,

electronically calculating, by the at least one computer processor and based on the information received from the second user, an unemployment insurance tax due by the second particular employer to the federal or state government unemployment insurance agency, and

communicating to the second user an invoice requesting payment of the unemployment insurance tax due by the second particular employer.

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150. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 149, wherein prompting the first user to provide information regarding employees of the first particular employer includes presenting a web page to the first user for input of wage information for employees of the first particular employer.

151. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 150, wherein communicating to the first user the invoice includes communicating the invoice as a web page that displays to the first user the unemployment insurance tax due by the first particular employer.

152. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 150, wherein prompting the second user to submit a request for an unemployment insurance benefit includes presenting a web page to the second user that prompts the second user to file a claim for an unemployment insurance benefit.

153. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 152, wherein the web page presented to the second user and the web page presented to the first user are in a same web-based interface to the unemployment insurance management system.

154. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 149,
wherein receiving the login information from the second user includes receiving the user identifier for the second user and a password for the second user, and
wherein authenticating the second user includes authenticating the second user based on the password received from the second user.

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REMARKS

Claims 80, 90-116 and 147-154 are pending in this application, with claims 80, 147 and 149 being independent. Claims 80, 91-94, 96, 97, 100-104, 109-116 and 147-149 have been amended, and claims 117-146 have been canceled. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicants thank Examiner Donlon for the telephonic communication received on January 31, 2011 indicating his intention to allow independent claim 149 and its dependent claims 150-154. In view of that indication, applicants have amended independent claims 80 and 147 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of independent claim 149. Applicants also have amended claim 149 to correct minor errors and have amended claims 91-94, 96, 97, 100-104, 109-116 and 148 to conform with the amendment to claims 80 and 147.

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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